

THE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL OF GODSTONE.

(Public Health Department)

ANNUAL REPORT

1 9 5 3

COUNCIL OFFICES,
OXTED, SURREY.

STAFF OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Medical Officer of Health:

(also: Medical Officer of Health, Reigate M.B.
and Divisional Medical Officer, Surrey C.C.)

THOMAS H. BINGHAM, M.D., B.Ch., B.A.O., D.P.H.

Chief Sanitary Inspector:

ARTHUR H. SEWELL, Cert. R.S.I., Cert. Inspector
of Meat and Other Foods, Cert. Sanitary Science.

Sanitary Inspector:

PETER F. WEST, Cert. R.S.I., Cert. Inspector
of Meat and Other Foods.

Clerk:

ROY DUNNETT.

Rat Officer:

JOHN LUCK.

THE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL OF GODSTONE.
ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
FOR THE YEAR 1953.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE.

Mr.Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I beg to submit my Report on the health and sanitary circumstances of the Rural District of Godstone in the year 1953. The Report is drawn up generally in accordance with the requirements of the Ministry of Health, as indicated in Circular 42/51, and follows the same arrangement as earlier issues in the same series. For ease of reference, the required information is presented as far as possible in tabular form.

The population of the Godstone Rural District at mid-year, 1953, was estimated by the Registrar-General to be 33,830, which includes members of the Armed Forces stationed in the area. This figure is not greatly at variance with that obtained from other sources and may therefore be accepted as accurate; consequently, the various statistical rates which are calculated upon it fairly represent the sickness and mortality actually experienced in the area. The estimated population increment since mid-year 1952, was 460, which is entirely attributable to migration, as there was no gain by natural increase, or excess of live births over deaths; in fact, the deaths accredited to the Rural District out-numbered the live births by fourteen.

The Surrey section of the 1951 Census Report has now been published and contains much interesting information relating to the age and sex distribution and marital state of the population of the Rural District as enumerated. The total population was 32,823, comprising 15,294 males and 17,529 females, or a sex ratio of 1,146 females to every 1,000 males. The percentage increase in population in the intercensal years 1931 to 1951 was 26.9, which is less than that for the administrative County (42.7) and than the aggregate of the Rural

Districts therein (34.1) during the same period. The rate of growth is not substantially greater than it was between 1921 and 1931.

The total Census population included 2,540 persons (1,303 males and 1,237 females) under the age of five years, and 1,443 (540 males and 903 females) over the age of seventy-five years, of whom six were ninety-five and upwards. As regards marital state, 45.9 per cent of the persons enumerated were single, 46.8 per cent married and 7.3 per cent widowed or divorced.

The density of population in the Rural District as a whole was 0.63 person per acre, though the densities in the individual parishes vary widely from the average, being 1.48 in the Parish of Oxted and 0.06 in the Parish of Titsey. The population density is calculated on the total acreage of the district, including commons, open spaces and non-tidal water and is not, therefore, a valid criterion of congested conditions in the area; nor can it be regarded as a guide to the adequacy of housing provision, which is determined by the sufficiency or otherwise of individual dwellings and habitable rooms.

The most noteworthy epidemiological events of the year were: (a) widespread prevalence of measles, which was not unexpected in view of the exceptional freedom from the disease in 1952, (b) the occurrence of five confirmed cases of poliomyelitis and (c) an outbreak of influenza, mainly affecting the elderly and infirm, in the early months of the year. The case rates for whooping cough and pneumonia also were somewhat above the average for the Rural District, but did not exceed those recorded in most other areas. There was, however, a considerable reduction in incidence of respiratory and non-respiratory forms of tuberculosis, a striking decline in the prevalence of scarlet fever and complete absence of diphtheria, enteric fever and cerebro-spinal meningitis.

The vital statistics for the Rural District in 1953 are not without interest. The recorded birth rate of 13.1 is by far the lowest since 1940. When adjusted to make approximate allowance for differences

in the sex and age group constitution of the local population as compared with that of England and Wales, the rate is advanced to 14.2, which compares with 15.5 for the country as a whole. The fall in the birth rate was accompanied by a sharp reduction in mortality amongst new-born babies, the infant mortality rate for 1953 (17.9 per 1,000 live births) being the lowest yet recorded in the Rural District. There was no appreciable increase in the proportion of infants registered as still-born.

The deaths assigned to the area include those of local residents who died elsewhere, but exclude those of temporary residents, which are transferred to the districts in which they have permanent residence. The total number of deaths so assigned was 459. The death rate calculated on this total is 13.56 per 1,000 of the estimated population, as compared with 9.67 in 1952, 10.61 in 1951 and an average annual rate of 11.72 for the preceding ten years. The marked rise in the death rate in the year under review is not explained by heavier mortality amongst local residents, but is very largely due to alteration of the rules governing the transfer of deaths for statistical purposes. Under the revised rules, which came into operation on 1st January, 1953, certain hospitals, institutions for the aged and chronic sick, residential childrens' homes and similar establishments were classified for the first time as the place of permanent residence of the inmates. In consequence, deaths occurring therein are now assigned to the Rural District, whereas, under the old arrangement, they would have been allotted to the districts from which the inmates were admitted. The effect of the alteration is seen in the increase in the recorded death rate; it is also reflected in the higher proportion of deaths taking place in public institutions (58.7 per cent in 1953, as compared with 41.2 per cent in 1952) and in the greater mortality ascribed to bronchitis, malignant disease, cerebral affections, degenerative changes of the heart and arteries and similar conditions occurring in association with senility.

The crude or recorded death rate for the Rural District

cannot validly be compared with the rate for the country as a whole or for areas roughly similar in size, until it is adjusted to compensate for the adverse influence of unfavourable age and sex distribution on the mortality experienced in the area. When so adjusted, the local rate is reduced to 11.9, which compares with 11.4 for England and Wales and 11.3 for districts with a resident population of 25,000 to 50,000.

The general standard of health of the inhabitants of the district cannot be assessed entirely on statistical findings, which take little account of ill-health and disabilities of one kind or another that are not officially notifiable and are not usually reflected in the returns of deaths. A great deal of information concerning illness of this nature is obtained from the certificates issued by medical practitioners in support of applications for Council housing accommodation. The disabilities most frequently mentioned in this connection are neurosis and similar types of psychological disturbance, in most cases due to domestic friction and uncongenial relationships between families sharing accommodation, and rheumatic and respiratory ailments which are thought to be caused or aggravated by dampness or other sanitary defect of the dwelling. The appropriate remedy in many of these cases is much more easily prescribed than applied.

Another valuable source of information with regard to non-notifiable illness is the reporting of persons, usually aged and infirm, who are suffering from chronic disease, living in insanitary circumstances and unable to devote to themselves, and are not receiving from others, the care and attention they require. Several such cases were investigated during the year, in consultation with the Divisional Welfare Officer, with a view to compulsory removal to hospital under the powers conferred by Section 47 of the National Assistance Act, 1948. In the few instances in which action on these lines could be justified it was not necessary to resort to it, either because the persons affected were persuaded to enter hospital voluntarily or, as an alternative, it was found possible, with the assistance of the

Home Help Scheme and other local authority and voluntary services to arrange for them to have proper attention in their own homes.

The general standard of health and physical development of the infant and child population of the district may fairly be judged on the results of medical examination of infants attending the Child Welfare Centres, the information gained by the Health Visitors in the course of their domiciliary visiting and the findings of routine and special medical examination of school children. The information obtained from all these sources does not disclose any evidence of deterioration from the standard attained in the past.

I gratefully acknowledge my indebtedness to the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee for the consideration they have shown to me throughout the year. My sincere thanks are due also to Mr.A.H.Sewell, Chief Sanitary Inspector, and to the medical practitioners in the area for their willing assistance and close co-operation in all matters of mutual concern.

I am, Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

T. H. BINGHAM.

Medical Officer of Health.

5th August, 1954.

SECTION I

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS.

Area (Land and Inland Water) in acres	52,507
Population at Census, 1951	32,823
Registrar-General's estimate of resident population at Mid-year, 1953	33,830
Number of inhabited houses at the end of 1953, according to the Rate Books (Revised)	9,319 *
Rateable Value (1953)	£347,772 *
Sum represented by a Penny Rate	£1,397 *

TABLE I

The area and population at the 1951 Census of the various Parishes comprising the Rural District, and the rateable value of each Parish at the end of 1953, are as follows:-

PARISHES	AREA IN ACRES	RATEABLE VALUE AT END OF 1953	CENSUS POPULATION OF PARISHES - 1951
Bletchingley	5,813	30,101	3,164
Burstow	4,750	24,972	2,961
Chelsham	2,703	11,608	1,390
Crowhurst	2,119	2,217	330
* (Felbridge)	(2,080)	(14,937)	
Godstone	4,464	32,379	5,033
Horne	3,603	6,260	1,102
Limpsfield	4,673	51,347	3,499
Lingfield	9,239	58,278	5,951
Nutfield	3,390	25,710	2,043
Oxted	3,658	71,874	5,420
Tandridge	2,722	6,277	802
Tatsfield	1,304	8,614	1,009
Titsey	1,989	3,198	119
<u>TOTALS</u>	52,507	£347,772	32,823

* Constituted as a separate Parish
on 1st April, 1953

TABLE II
EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS.

Live Births:-

Legitimate	Males 225	Females 209	Total	434
Illegitimate	" 7	" 4	"	11

Birth Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population:- 13.1

Do. 1952 13.6

Do. for the five years 1948 to 1952 14.2

Still Births:-

Legitimate	Males 7	Females 4	Total	11
Illegitimate	" 0	" 0	"	0

Rate per 1,000 total births:- 24.1

Do. 1952 17.2

Deaths (Nett) :- Males 234 Females 225 Total 459

Do. 1952 " 140 " 182 " 322

Death Rate per 1,000 population:- 13.5

Do. 1952 9.6

Do. for the five years 1948 to 1952 10.7

Percentage of total deaths occurring in public institutions:- 58.7

Deaths of Infants under the age of one year:-

Legitimate	Males 5	Females 2	Total	7
Illegitimate	" 0	" 1	"	1

Death Rate of infants under one year:-

All infants per 1,000 live births 17.9

Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births 16.1

Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births 90.9

Deaths from:-

Cancer	72
Measles	1
Whooping Cough	Nil
Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	2

TABLE III

Birth rates, Death rates and Analysis
of Mortality in the year 1953.

	England and Wales	160 C.Bs. & Great Towns, including London.	160 Smaller Towns (resident population 25,000 - 50,000 at 1951 Census)	London Administrative County.	Godstone Rural District.
<u>Rate per 1,000 population</u>					
<u>Births:-</u>					
Live Births	15.5	17.0	15.7	17.5	<u>13.1</u> *
Still Births	0.35	0.43	0.34	0.38	<u>0.32</u>
<u>Deaths:-</u>					
All causes	11.4	12.2	11.3	12.5	<u>13.5</u> *
Typhoid & Para-typhoid fevers	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	<u>0.00</u>
Tuberculosis	0.20	0.24	0.19	0.24	<u>0.14</u>
Whooping Cough	0.01	0.01	0.00	0.00	<u>0.00</u>
Diphtheria	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	<u>0.00</u>
Influenza	0.16	0.15	0.17	0.15	<u>0.20</u>
Smallpox	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	<u>0.00</u>
Acute Poliomyelitis and Polioencephalitis	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	<u>0.02</u>
Pneumonia	0.55	0.59	0.52	0.64	<u>0.88</u>
<u>Rate per 1,000 Live Births</u>					
Total Deaths under 1 year	26.8	30.8	24.3	24.8	<u>17.9</u>
Deaths from Diarrhoea and enteritis under 2 years	1.1	1.3	0.9	1.1	<u>4.4</u>

* Unadjusted

TABLE IV

CAUSES OF DEATH IN THE GODSTONE RURAL DISTRICT DURING 1953.

	M.	F.	Total.
1. Tuberculosis, respiratory	2	1	3
2. Tuberculosis, other forms	2	-	2
3. Syphilitic disease	2	2	4
4. Diphtheria	-	-	-
5. Whooping Cough	-	-	-
6. Meningococcal infections	-	-	-
7. Acute poliomyelitis	1	-	1
8. Measles	-	1	1
9. Other infective and parasitic diseases	1	-	1
10. Malignant neoplasm, stomach	5	3	8
11. Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	11	-	11
12. Malignant neoplasm, breast	-	12	12
13. Malignant neoplasm, uterus	-	-	-
14. Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	18	23	41
15. Leukaemia, aleukaemia	2	-	2
16. Diabetes	-	2	2
17. Vascular lesions of nervous system	29	30	59
18. Coronary disease, angina	19	24	43
19. Hypertension with heart disease	3	3	6
20. Other heart disease	34	62	96
21. Other circulatory disease	15	19	34
22. Influenza	3	4	7
23. Pneumonia	23	7	30
24. Bronchitis	18	5	23
25. Other diseases of respiratory system	6	-	6
26. Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	2	-	2
27. Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	2	1	3
28. Nephritis and nephrosis	2	-	2
29. Hyperplasia of prostate	6	-	6
30. Pregnancy, Childbirth, abortion	-	1	1
31. Congenital malformations	-	1	1
32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases	13	13	26
33. Motor vehicle accidents	2	1	3
34. All other accidents	6	9	15
35. Suicide	5	-	5
36. Homicide and operations of war	2	1	3
Totals	234	225	459

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS
AND OTHER DISEASES.

Provision of Isolation Hospital Accommodation.

The provision of hospital accommodation for the isolation and treatment of cases of infectious illness is the responsibility of the Regional Hospital Board. Cases occurring in the Godstone Rural District are admitted to the isolation hospitals at Bletchingley and Westcott, if the required accommodation is available; otherwise, they are sent to isolation hospitals in other parts of the hospital Region. Uncomplicated cases of the more common infections, such as measles, mumps and whooping cough, are not usually accepted, unless recommended by the Medical Officer of Health on the grounds that the patient cannot be satisfactorily isolated and treated in his own home; several such cases were admitted to hospital during the year.

There were no complaints of difficulty or delay in securing the admission of infectious patients to hospital, nor of dissatisfaction with the arrangements for ambulance transport and the quality of the hospital services given. There was, however, occasional delay or failure on the part of certain hospital authorities to notify the Medical Officer of Health of the admission and discharge of all patients from his area and of the ultimate diagnosis made in cases admitted to hospital on suspicion. This necessitated repeated enquiry at the hospitals concerned to obtain information which was essential for the application of suitable precautionary measures in relation to immediate contacts. Another defect with similar implications is that the Medical Officer of Health is not invariably furnished with copies of laboratory reports which indicate the presence of notifiable infection. The present position in both these respects is now generally satisfactory so far as local hospitals and pathological laboratories are concerned, and some improvement has followed informal approach to the officers responsible for hospital and laboratory services elsewhere.

Notifiable Infectious Diseases.

Table V shows the numbers of the various notifiable infectious diseases, other than tuberculosis, recorded in the area during the calendar year, classified according to the age of the patient, together with the numbers of cases removed to hospital and the total deaths from each disease. Comparative statistics are given in Table VI.

TABLE V
CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE (OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS)
NOTIFIED IN THE GODSTONE RURAL DISTRICT
DURING THE YEAR 1953.

	CASES NOTIFIED IN AGE PERIODS												Totals	Total cases re- moved to hospital.	Total Deaths
	Under 1 Year	1 to 2	2 to 3	3 to 4	4 to 5	5 to 10	10 to 15	15 to 20	20 to 35	35 to 45	45 to 65	65 and over			
Scarlet Fever	-	-	1	1	5	17	3	3	-	-	-	-	30	19	-
Whooping Cough	9	7	7	10	16	55	3	1	-	-	-	1	109	9	-
Measles	5	22	40	49	53	299	32	2	5	3	-	-	510	3	1
Pneumonia	-	-	-	1	-	2	-	-	2	5	3	3	16	1	30 [*]
Dysentery	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	6	7	1	-
Malaria	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	2	1	-
Erysipelas	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	5	-	7	2	-
Food Poisoning	1	-	-	1	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	4	1	-
Acute Polio- myelitis															
(a) Paralytic	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	1	-	3	3	1
(b) Non- Paralytic	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	2	2	-
TOTALS	15	29	48	62	74	377	38	7	10	10	10	10	690	42	32
TOTALS 1952	3	10	9	9	19	54	9	2	5	5	4	1	130	35	14

^{*} All forms

TABLE VI

CASE RATES FOR CERTAIN INFECTIOUS DISEASES IN THE YEAR 1953.

RATES PER 1,000 CIVILIAN POPULATION												Rates per 1,000 Total (i.e. Live & Still) Births.	
												Food pois- oning	
												Pneu- monia	
												Measles	
												Acute Poliomyelitis & Polioencephalitis Paralytic	Non Paralytic
												Diph- theria	
												Whooping Cough	
												Scarlet Fever	
												Meningo- coccal Infection	
												Para Typhoid Fever	
												Typhoid Fever	
England and Wales													
160 County Boroughs and Great Towns, including London													
160 Smaller Towns (Resident Population 35,000 - 50,000 at 1951 Census)													
London Administrative County													
Godstone Rural <u>District</u>													

Measles was the most prevalent of the infectious diseases, and occurred in the form of an outbreak which was practically confined to the first six months of the year. Children in the younger age groups, and particularly those living in the Oxted, Lingfield and Godstone districts, were chiefly affected. The rate of prevalence (15.07 per 1,000 of the population) is above the average for the Rural District and is appreciably higher than that recorded in most other areas. Cases of whooping cough also were somewhat more numerous than usual, especially in the latter part of the year, but there was no significant grouping of cases in relation to any particular school or locality.

The 5 confirmed cases of poliomyelitis were very scattered in distribution and had no known contact with a recognised case, nor with each other. The dates of onset and the localities from which they were reported were so widely separated that it is extremely unlikely that the infection was derived from a common source. All recovered satisfactorily and with comparatively little residual disability, with the exception of one who died shortly after admission to hospital.

Three of the notifications of food poisoning related to members of one family who became infected while on holiday at a seaside hotel; it subsequently transpired that most of the other guests at the hotel had been similarly affected. The fourth case was of a six-month old infant, who was admitted to hospital with symptoms of gastro-enteritis which were found, on laboratory investigation, to be attributable to organisms usually associated with food poisoning; the source of infection in this case could not be traced. All four cases were mild in type and made a complete recovery. The only other instances of intestinal infection were seven cases of dysentery, which occurred amongst patients in Clerk's Croft; all responded satisfactorily to medical treatment and the usual hygienic precautions.

The incidence and mortality rates for other notifiable infectious diseases were, on the whole, below the average for the Rural District and compare favourably with those experienced in other areas. This was especially so as regards scarlet fever, which exhibited striking decline in prevalence. The complete absence of cases of enteric fever, diphtheria and cerebro-spinal infection is also noteworthy.

TUBERCULOSIS.

Particulars of cases of tuberculosis which came to the knowledge of the Medical Officer of Health during the year are set out in Table VII, together with an analysis of the deaths in the area from the disease during the same period. The former include 22 cases notified for the first time and 1 that became known post-humously through the Registrar's returns of deaths. One of the primary notifications was subsequently withdrawn, on a report from the Chest Physician that the person concerned was not suffering from tuberculosis.

There were also reports of a total of 15 previously-known cases of respiratory tuberculosis who had come into the district from other areas in which they had already been notified. In many of these the disease was considered to be arrested or quiescent, but all are under the supervision of the medical and health visiting staff of the Chest Clinic.

The number of new cases of tuberculosis of the lungs represents a definite decline in prevalence of this form of the disease, the reduction being most marked in the case of males in the younger age groups. The fall in prevalence was accompanied by greatly reduced mortality; the death rate for respiratory tuberculosis in 1953 was one of the lowest yet recorded, namely 0.08 per 1,000, as compared with an average rate of 0.17 for the preceding ten years. The falling incidence and mortality, if sustained, may possibly be evidence of the effect of improved housing and social conditions in checking spread of infection, and may also indicate that the disease is being detected at an earlier stage, when the prospects of successful treatment and complete recovery are very greatly enhanced.

The 5 reported cases of non-respiratory tuberculosis were confined to persons under the age of sixteen years. The total number is considerably below the average for recent years, though the mortality from this form of the disease has not shown any appreciable or sustained decline.

At the end of the year there were 219 known cases of tuberculosis in the district, including 134 (81 males and 53 females) in which the lungs were affected, and 85 (35 males and 50 females) with tuberculosis of other organs.

No special action was necessary under the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925 (relating to persons suffering from pulmonary tuberculosis employed in the milk trade), nor under Section 172 of the Public Health Act, 1936 (relating to the compulsory removal to hospital of persons suffering from tuberculosis).

TABLE VII

NEW CASES OF TUBERCULOSIS, AND ALL DEATHS
FROM THE DISEASE IN THE AREA DURING 1953,
CLASSIFIED ACCORDING TO AGE, SEX AND TYPE OF DISEASE.

Age periods	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Under 1 year	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1 - 5 years	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
5 - 15 years	2	-	-	3	-	-	-	-
15 - 25 years	1	1	-	1	-	-	-	-
25 - 35 years	3	3	-	-	-	1	-	-
35 - 45 years	2	3	-	-	-	-	-	-
45 - 55 years	-	1	-	-	1	-	1	-
55 - 65 years	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
65 and upwards	1	-	-	-	1	-	1	-
<u>Totals</u>	10	8	1	4	2	1	2	-

Non-notifiable Infectious Diseases.

Information concerning the prevalence of non-notifiable infectious and contagious diseases is necessarily incomplete, and is obtained mainly from school attendance records and the Registrar's returns of deaths. Cases also come to notice through hospital admissions, enquiries by employers with regard to quarantine periods, requests for disinfection and casual communications by private medical practitioners.

The information obtained from all these sources would suggest that influenza was more prevalent than usual, especially in the first three months of the year and amongst the elderly and infirm. The seven deaths ascribed to influenza represent a mortality rate of 0.20, which is higher than that for England and Wales and is above the average for the Rural District.

The other non-notifiable infections included 61 cases of chicken-pox, most of which occurred as a localised outbreak at Chelsham in November, 40 cases of mumps at Dormansland and South Godstone Schools and a group of 19 cases of German measles at Baldwins Hill. Cases admitted to hospital included one of German measles, one of acute gastro-enteritis and one of Vincent's angina.

VACCINATION AND IMMUNISATION.

Vaccination against Small-pox.

Vaccination against small-pox is not at present undertaken at the County Council's Clinics in the area. Particulars of notifications of vaccinations performed by private medical practitioners during the year are as follows:-

	<u>0 - 1</u> <u>year</u>	<u>1 - 5</u> <u>years</u>	<u>5 - 15</u> <u>years</u>	<u>Over 15</u> <u>years</u>	<u>Total</u>
Primary Vaccination	140	160	6	10	316
Re-vaccination	-	3	35	115	153

The total number of primary vaccinations is somewhat greater than in 1952. This is the more remarkable in view of the fact that there was no reported outbreak of small-pox in neighbouring areas, which would tend to stimulate the demand for protection against the disease. It is also noteworthy that a proportionately greater number of the primary vaccinations

were of infants under the age of twelve months; 31.5 per cent of the infants born in 1953 were successfully vaccinated, as compared with 30 per cent in 1952. The proportion of the child population so protected, however, is much too small to offer an effective barrier against widespread dissemination of the disease should it, unfortunately, be introduced into the area in virulent form. The efforts of the medical and health visiting staff to encourage acceptance of infant vaccination are largely ineffective in the absence of actual cases of the disease or appreciable risk of coming into contact with it.

The majority of the re-vaccinations were of persons who were required to produce a certificate of recent vaccination to enable them to travel abroad. Such certificates must be authenticated by the Medical Officer of Health of the district in which the person normally resides.

Immunisation against Diphtheria.

Immunisation against diphtheria is available through general medical practitioners and at the County Council's Clinics in the area. The numbers of children artificially immunised during the year are as follows:-

Under 5 years	325
5 to 15 years	<u>101</u>
	<u>426</u>

In addition, reinforcing doses of diphtheria prophylactic were given to 166 persons, most of whom were school entrants who had completed a course of immunisation three or four years previously.

The numbers immunised are greater than in 1952. It is estimated that close on 50 per cent of children under the age of five years and not less than 80 per cent of those between the ages of five and fifteen years have been artificially immunised against diphtheria, either by private medical practitioners or at the County Council's Clinics. It is not usual to immunise infants under the age of eight or nine months, so that the number immunised in the 0 - 5 years age group represents much more than 50 per cent of those eligible for treatment.

Vaccination against Whooping Cough.

The County Council's scheme for vaccination and immunisation has recently been extended to include protective inoculation against whooping

cough, either alone or in combination with diphtheria prophylaxis. This is available through general medical practitioners, at fixed immunisation clinics and at infant welfare sessions at which diphtheria immunisation is at present undertaken, and is directed mainly to infants under the age of twelve months.

The numbers of children in different age groups who completed a course of treatment during the year are set out below and are much greater than was expected, having regard to the agreed policy that special or organised measures should not be taken at this stage to press the general acceptance of immunisation against whooping cough. The numbers so far immunised, however, are much too small to have any appreciable influence on the epidemiology of the disease.

	<u>Under 1</u>	<u>1 - 2</u>	<u>2 - 3</u>	<u>3 - 4</u>	<u>4 - 5</u>	<u>5 - 15</u>	<u>Total</u>
	<u>year</u>	<u>years</u>	<u>years</u>	<u>years</u>	<u>years</u>	<u>years</u>	
<u>Immunised</u>	41	126	20	15	18	13	233
<u>Reinforcing</u>							
<u> Injections</u>	--	---	--	--	--	13	13

Measles Prophylaxis.

Immune serum is available through the Public Health Department for the total or partial immunisation of susceptible measles contacts. No request for serum was received during the year.

B.C.G. Vaccination against Tuberculosis.

The County Council has made arrangements for the protective inoculation, by B.C.G. vaccine, of selected children from households in which there is an infectious case of tuberculosis. This work is undertaken mainly by the Chest Physicians, with occasional assistance from the Divisional Medical Staff.

The advisability of offering such protection to all school children between the ages of thirteen and fourteen years is at present under consideration by the County Council.

Protection against other Diseases.

Prophylactic inoculation against other infectious diseases, such as enteric fever, cholera, yellow fever, etc., is necessary in the case of persons proposing to visit foreign countries where these diseases are endemic, and is usually undertaken at specified centres. The International Certificate required in such cases must be authenticated by the Medical Officer of Health of the district in which the person resides.

WATER SUPPLY.

With the exception of the Parish of Tatsfield, which obtains its supply mainly from the Metropolitan Water Board, the whole of the Rural District is supplied by the East Surrey Water Company. In parts of the Parish of Oxted, the Parish of Limpsfield and the parts of Tatsfield supplied by the Company, the water is derived from the lower greensand, and elsewhere from deep borings in the chalk; the water from both sources is chlorinated and de-chlorinated before distribution to consumers.

The supplies from the public water mains were adequate in quantity throughout the year. The quality, as revealed by chemical and bacteriological examination at regular intervals, was invariably reported to be satisfactory. No action was necessary in respect of any form of contamination.

Samples of the water before and after treatment are submitted twice weekly for bacteriological examination, under private arrangements made by the East Surrey Water Company. In addition, samples of the treated water are examined chemically and bacteriologically about forty times a year, under a rota system arranged by the Medical Officers of Health of the districts supplied by the Company; samples are taken in each district at stated times and copies of the Analyst's reports are circulated to all the districts concerned.

The estimated number of dwelling-houses in each parish supplied from the public water mains (direct to houses and by means of stand-pipes), wells and rain-water tanks are set out in Table VIII. The population supplied under each heading is shown in brackets.

Supplies from rain-water tanks are confined to out-lying dwellings in the Parish of Tatsfield and not infrequently fail completely after prolonged periods of dry weather. In such an emergency, a 300-gallon tank is borrowed, free of charge, from the East Surrey Water Company and is used for the conveyance of water by local authority transport to replenish the drinking water supplies of the dwellings affected; this service was put into operation on two occasions during the year. Additional supplies of water for drinking and other domestic purposes can usually be obtained from the Metropolitan Water Board, on payment of a small charge to cover transport costs.

TABLE VIII

	DIRECT TO HOUSES	STAND PIPES	WELLS	RAIN WATER TANKS
Bletchingley	775 (3286)	16 (58)	6 (20)	
Burstow	675 (3038)		7 (23)	
Chelsham	294 (1398)	1 (3)		
Crowhurst	82 (322)	4 (8)		
Godstone	1272 (5074)	12 (36)	11 (23)	
Horne	365 (1177)	6 (14)	6 (11)	
Limpsfield	1030 (3696)		2 (3)	
Lingfield	1801 (6091)	10 (34)	7 (22)	
Nutfield	570 (1990)	17 (53)		
Oxted	1680 (5515)		3 (5)	
Tandridge	256 (783)	4 (14)	2 (5)	
Tatsfield	291 (769)			70 (240)
Titsey	44 (119)			
<u>TOTALS</u>	9135 (33258)	70 (220)	44 (112)	70 (240)

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE

During 1953 the main sewer was extended to the following districts:

New Farthingdale, Dormansland.
Greenhurst, Oxted. (phase 3)
Quarry Farm Estate, Godstone. (phase 2)

The total number of houses connected thereto was 132.

SECTION II

(SANITARY INSPECTION)

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR.

Nuisance Inspections	251
Re-inspections	213
Inspections under Housing Acts	149
Re-inspections	234
Drainage surveys	131
Visits to Slaughter Houses	34
Visits to Dairies and Cowsheds	51
Inspection of Food - number of visits	57
<u>Milk Samples (Farms)</u>	
(a) No. of samples satisfied Meth.Blue and Phosphatase exam.	3
(b) " " " failed " " " " " "	Nil
(c) " " " passed biological exam.	86
(d) " " " failed " " " " " "	1.
Total number of farm milk samples taken.	90
<u>Milk Samples (Dairies)</u>	
(a) No. of samples satisfied Meth.Blue and Phosphatase exam.	1
(b) " " " failed " " " " " "	Nil
(c) " " " passed biological exam.	47
(d) " " " failed " " " " " "	Nil
Total number of dairy milk samples taken.	48
<u>Milk Samples (Schools)</u>	
(a) No. of samples satisfied Meth.Blue and Phosphatase exam.	56
(b) " " " failed " " " " " "	Nil
(c) " " " passed biological exam.	5
(d) " " " failed " " " " " "	Nil
Total number of school milk samples taken.	61
<u>Milk Samples (Pasteurising Establishments)</u>	
(a) No. of samples satisfied Meth.Blue and Phosphatase exam.	91
(b) " " " failed " " " " " "	5
Total number of samples taken.	96
Ice Cream Samples (satisfactory)	8
Inspection of ice cream premises	6
Inspections of Food Premises	240
Inspections of Factories and Workshops	55
Inspections of Tents, Vans etc.	82
Inspections under Petroleum Acts and Regulations	29
Drains Water tested	29
Inspection of drainage work in progress	131
Notices served:-	
(a) Informal	240
(b) Statutory	11
Complaints investigated	213
Infectious disease enquiries	63
Inspection of refuse tips	53
Samples of drinking water submitted for Bacterial and/or Chemical Analysis.	21
Miscellaneous inspections	57
Number of Cesspools cleansed	1810
Number of loads removed from cesspools	2708
Disinfection of premises	26
Disinfestation of premises	78
Premises inspected for rat or mice infestation	1256
Rat Infestations dealt with by Public Health Department	343
Inspections under Pet Animals Act	5
Inspections under Rag Flock Act	3

SUMMARY OF REPAIRS.

Carried out under the supervision of the Public Health Department
during the year 1953 as a result of notices served.

TABLE IX

Internal repairs to plaster etc. carried out	43
Window arches repaired	2
Dampness in walls remedied	44
Dampness in solid floors remedied	17
Defective roofs repaired/renewed	37
Light and ventilation improved	3
Fire grates repaired/or renewed	9
Cooking ranges repaired/renewed	7
Sinks repaired or renewed	8
Sink waste pipes repaired	9
Eaves gutters repaired or renewed	26
Rain water downspouts repaired or renewed	25
Wooden floors repaired/renewed	14
Dry rot remedied	5
Staircases repaired	7
Defective chimneys repaired	27
Defective doors repaired or renewed	12
Walls and ceilings redecorated	19
Sashcords renewed	7
Window frames repaired or renewed	22
Glazing made good	5
Window putties renewed	7
Fire bricks fitted	2
Ventilated foodstores provided	3
Defective coppers repaired	4
Flushing cisterns to W.C.'s repaired or provided	6
Ventilation to W.C.'s	3
W.C. pans provided	6
W.C. structures repaired	5
Pail closet structures repaired or provided	5
W.C. seats provided	5
Water service pipes repaired	6
Water service improved	1
Water service laid on	2
Defective external walls repaired	21
Draining boards provided	1
Yard paving repaired or provided	3
Dustbins provided	11
Drains cleared or repaired	11
Connections to main sewer	2
Filter beds repaired or overhauled	8
Inspection covers provided	4
Overflow from cesspools cut off	15
Cesspools provided	4
F.A.I.'s provided	4
Gully surrounds repaired	11
Miscellaneous nuisances abated	44
Cesspools cleansed	35
Cesspools repaired	2
Construction of new solid floors	1
Provision of new bathroom	2
Septic tanks and filter beds provided	4
<u>Dairies and cowsheds.</u>	
Yards improved	1
Drainage improved	3
Accumulations of manure removed	3
<u>Piggeries.</u>	
New and improved drainage	2
New sties constructed	1
Accumulations of manure removed	5
Dung mixen provided	1
<u>Knackers Yard.</u>	
Defective internal plaster repaired	1
Yard surface repaired	1
Cesspool cleansed	1
Accumulations of manure removed	1
Smoke nuisance abated	1

SECTION III

H O U S I N G

TABLE X

1. Inspection of Dwellinghouses during the year 1953.

(i) (a)	Total number of dwellinghouses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts).	149
(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose	213
(ii) (a)	Number of dwellinghouses (included under sub-head (i) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations 1925 and 1932).	76
(b)	Number of inspections made for this purpose	149
(iii)	Number of dwellinghouses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation.	7
(iv)	Number of dwellinghouses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation.	92

2. Remedy of defects during the year without Service of Formal Notices.

Number of dwellinghouses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or its Officers.	87
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3. Action under Statutory Powers during the year.

A. Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936:

(i)	Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	10
(ii)	Number of dwellinghouses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices:	
(a)	by owners	5
(b)	by Local Authority in default of owners	Nil
(c)	outstanding (part completed)	5

B. Proceedings under Public Health Act:

(i)	Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied.	1
(ii)	Number of dwellinghouses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:	
(a)	by owners	1
(b)	by Local Authority in default of owners	Nil

C. Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act 1936.

(i) Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	2
Horne Court Hill Cottages, Horne. (2)	
(ii) Number of dwellinghouses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders or as a result of Clearance Area procedure	15
Derby Cottage, Tatsfield. (1)	
Isley Cottages, Lingfield. (2)	
Lusted Hall Cottages, Tatsfield. (2)	
1-10 Plaistow Street, Lingfield. (10)	
(iii) Number of undertakings not to re-let	5
Skipperage Cottages, Haxted. (2)	
Church Walk, Bletchingley. (3)	

D. Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936.

(i) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made.	Nil
(ii) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit.	Nil

E. Abatement of Overcrowding.

Number of dwellinghouses found to be statutorily overcrowded as defined by Section 58, Housing Act, 1936	2
--	---

4. Houses erected by Private Enterprise.

Number of houses completed in 1953	74
------------------------------------	----

SECTION IV.

FACTORIES ACT, 1937.

The factories on the Register of the
Local Authority are as follows:-

TABLE XI.

	<u>Mechanical Power</u>	<u>Non-Mechan- ical Power</u>	<u>Total</u>
Aeronautical Research	1	0	1
Aerial Photography	1	0	1
Agricultural Engineers	3	0	3
Aircraft Repairs	1	0	1
Bakeries	13	3	16
Bandage Manufacturers	1	0	1
Boot Repairing	1	1	2
Brass Finishing	1	0	1
Brick Making	4	0	4
Builders	1	10	11
Cabinet Makers	1	1	2
Chemical Manufacturers	1	0	1
Cigarette Factory	1	0	1
Cleaners and Dyers	1	0	1
Coach Builders	2	0	2
Corn Provenders	1	0	1
Cycle Repairers	0	1	1
Dairies	1	0	1
Dressmaking	0	1	1
Electrical Engineering	0	2	2
Fire Extinguishers	1	0	1
Flour Milling	3	0	3
Fullers Earth Works	2	0	2
French Chalk Grinders	1	0	1
Gas Works	3	0	3
Grass Drying	3	0	3
Jewellers	0	3	3
Joinery	6	1	7
Laundries	2	5	7
Leaded Lights	1	0	1
Light Engineering Works	9	0	9
Motor Repairers	22	5	27
Photographic	0	1	1
Plumbers	0	1	1
Printers	2	0	2
Projection Room	1	0	1
Rodent destruction	0	1	1
Saddlery	0	2	2
Sawmills	3	0	3
Stonemason	0	1	1
Smithies	1	0	1
Tile and Concrete	1	0	1
Tailoring	1	4	5
Upholstery	1	0	1
Wax Modelling	1	0	1
Wheelwrights	1	0	1
Woodcrafts	2	0	2
<hr/>			
	102	43	145
<hr/>			

The following Table indicating the work carried out during the year 1953 in connection with the inspection of Factories, is submitted in accordance with Section 128 of the Act :-

INSPECTIONS.

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers prosecuted
1. Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 & 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	43	22	1	Nil
2. Factories not included in (1), to which Section 7 applies (a) subject to the Local Authorities (Transfer of Enforcement Order 1938) (b) Others.	102	33	3	Nil
3. Other premises under the Act (excluding outworkers' premises)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
TOTAL	145	55	4	Nil

CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND.

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	referred To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	3	3	Nil	Nil	Nil
Overcrowding (S.2)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7):-					
(a) Insufficient	1	1	Nil	1	Nil
(b) Unsuitable or defective	2	2	Nil	2	Nil
(c) Not separate for sexes	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Other offences (not including offences relating to Outwork)	1	1	Nil	1	Nil
TOTAL	7	7	Nil	4	Nil

OUTWORK (SECTION 110 and 111)

During the year, five lists of outworkers were received and referred to fourteen premises situated within the Godstone Rural District. Inspections showed that the occupants were engaged on the following work:-

Preparation and manufacture of electric lamp shades	...	9
Finishing of wearing apparel	... ..	3

Home conditions were found to be quite satisfactory and no action was considered necessary by the Local Authority.

FIRE PRECAUTIONS (SECTION 34)

In the course of the year two further Certificates as to the adequacy of means of escape in case of fire were granted. In the one case to studio premises in Limpsfield where cellulose spraying and wax modelling is carried out, and in the second case to a new factory which commenced work in Smallfield where the manufacture of machine parts and light engineering is carried out.

Other factories in the district were visited and a check made on the fire precautions as affecting the means of escape in case of fire in order to see that the conditions of the Certificates previously granted were being adhered to.

SHOPS ACT, 1934 and FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938.

The number of food premises by type situated within the Rural District of Godstone are as follows:-

Grocers and Provision Merchants	...	35
Butchers	... ..	22
General Stores	... ..	27
Bakers and Confectioners	... ..	13
Fishmongers	... ..	7
Confectioners	... ..	12

Greengrocers and Fruiterers	...	...	10
Dairies	...	...	7
Hotels (Residential)	...	...	8
Restaurants	...	...	13
Cafes and Snack Bars	...	...	17
Public Houses	...	...	46

Of these, the premises registered under Section 14 Food and Drugs Act, 1938 are as under:-

Registered ice-cream premises	...	87
Premises for food preparation	...	23

Visits of inspection were carried out during the year to shop premises within the district. As a result of these inspections, the following works were carried out:-

Hand washing facilities provided, including provision of sinks with hot and cold water	...	...	...	...	...	27
Protective covers and cabinets for display purposes provided	...	...	...	...	...	4
Food shops, store rooms, food preparation rooms cleansed and redecorated	...	...	...	...	...	41
Bacon and fats storage facilities provided	...	...	...	...	...	4
Certificates of Exemption for the provision of separate W.C. accommodation granted	...	...	...	...	...	3
Food preparation rooms provided	...	...	...	...	...	2
Sanitary accommodation cleansed	...	...	...	...	...	4
Protective clothing provided	...	...	...	...	...	1
Drain gullies removed from interior of food premises...	...	...	...	...	...	2

A general check was also made from time to time to see that the Food Handling Byelaws were being properly observed.

REFUSE COLLECTION.

The construction of new houses, both by Private Enterprise and Local Authority necessitated the collection of refuse from 238 additional houses and flats. The conversion of large houses into flats or into two or more separate dwellings has also increased the amount of refuse to be collected.

Difficulties were experienced during the year with staff shortages due mainly to illness and there were occasions when the schedule of collections could not be maintained. Vehicle breakdowns were few and not of a serious nature. It has been noticeable that the contents of dustbins is again showing that a considerable amount of combustible material is being thrown away, and not only does this increase the bulk of refuse to be collected, but also adds to the fire risk on the refuse disposal tip.

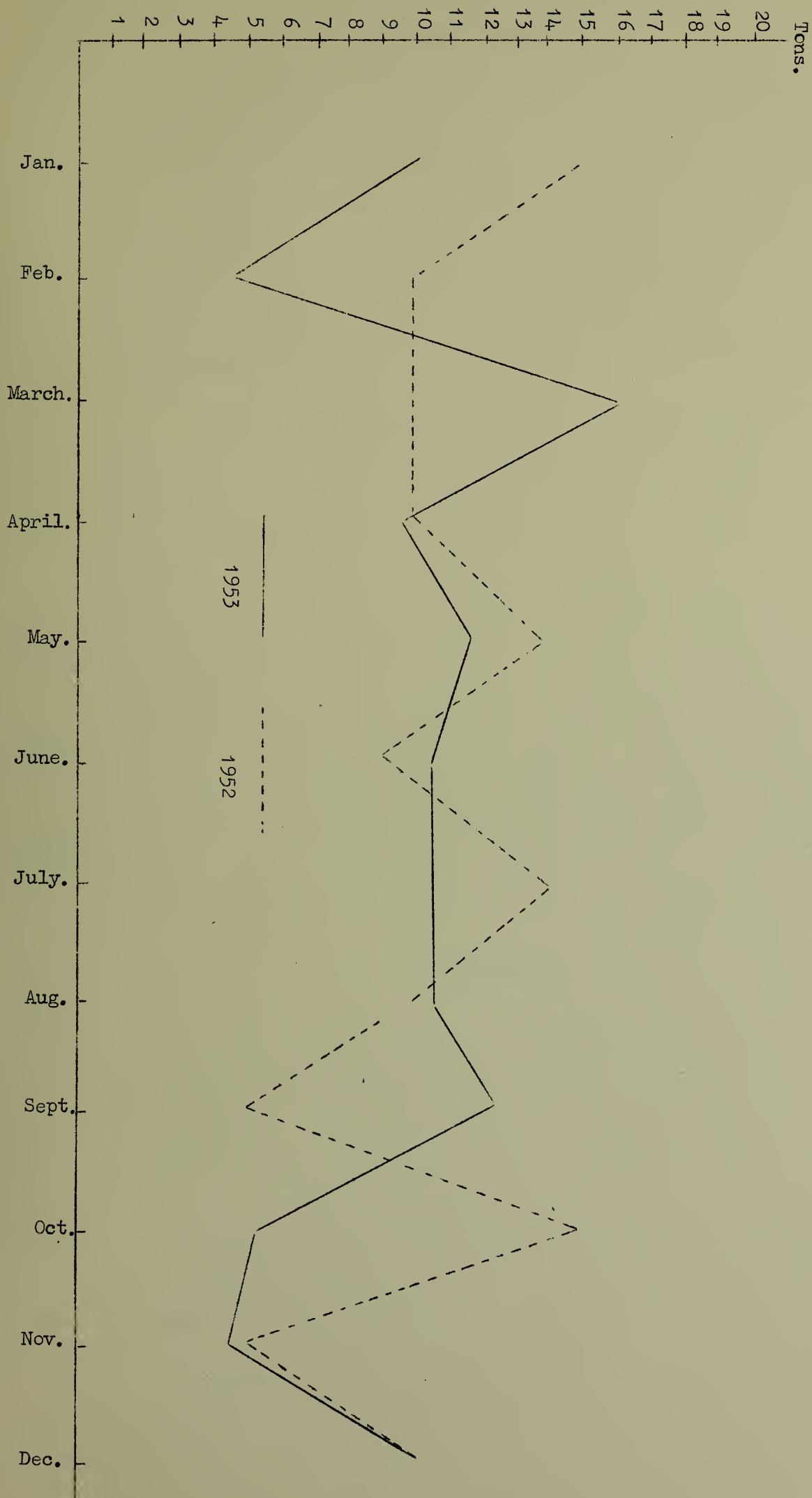
It was unfortunate that the collection and disposal of waste paper had to be curtailed due to conditions which arose in the world markets, and this of course encouraged the householder to put more waste paper, cartons, etc. into the dustbin.

The disposal of refuse at Taylors Hill Sandpit continued throughout the year and this work was again performed mainly by the Chaseside Mechanical Spreader and Shovel. Mechanical assistance in the disposal of refuse is unquestionably the most efficient way of dealing with the problem, and not only is it more satisfactory from a Public Health point of view, it is also a much more efficient method of disposal than manual labour could ever hope to be.

The continued use of insecticides in powder form and the regular inspection and test baiting of the tip for rat infestation has helped to keep the tip free from any serious infestation of either rodents or insects. Again the better consolidation which has resulted in the use of mechanization for the refuse disposal has played quite a large part in preventing rat infestation.

The amount of waste paper which was collected, baled and despatched to the Mills during the year amounted to 105 tons. The usual chart is attached showing the collection per month of waste paper.

SALVAGE COLLECTION.



CESSPOOL CLEANSING.

The number of applications received for cesspool cleansing by the Public Health Department amounted to 1,810 which is an increase of 285 over the previous year, and represented 2,708 loads which is equal to 2,031,000 gallons. There are two cesspool cleansing vehicles in operation of 750 gallons capacity and these two vehicles were kept extremely busy the whole of the year. The attached chart shows the number of applications received and the number of loads dealt with each month.

The question of the disposal of cesspool contents after removal by the cesspool vehicle is presenting certain difficulties. It will be readily appreciated that to take a large number of loads of cesspool waste into small sewage works seriously embarrasses the function of the works due in no small measure to the semi-septic condition of the waste matter to be dealt with. As far as possible therefore the cesspool cleansing vehicles dispose of their loads at the larger sewage works, and this entails a fair amount of travelling at times. Endeavours are made to meet the demand being made on these vehicles, but there is every indication that the number of applications will increase until such time as new main drainage schemes can be put into operation.

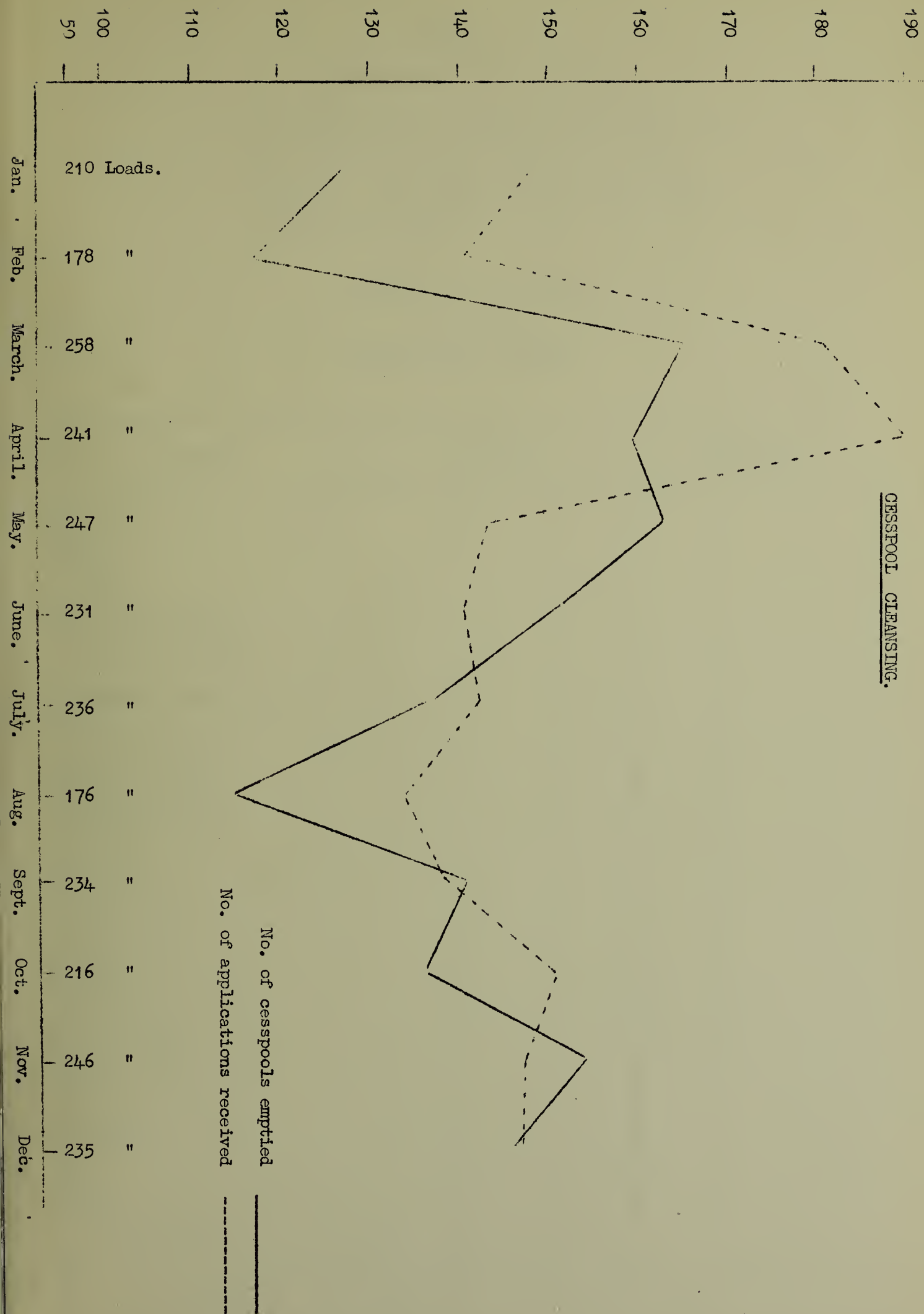
MORTUARIES.

The Mortuary, situated at Oxted, and which also serves the Caterham and Warlingham district, is maintained in very good condition. The strip lighting installed in 1952 has proved to be of great benefit in facilitating the carrying out of post mortem examinations.

The number of bodies taken into the Mortuary during the year was 41 from the Godstone Rural District, and 30 from Caterham and Warlingham.

The Mortuary Superintendent looks after the premises very efficiently.

CESSPOOL CLEANING.



SECTION V.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938-1950.

The Surrey County Council is the Authority responsible for the sampling of foodstuffs, and the following list is a record of the samples and action taken within the Godstone Rural District. In addition a return of the samples submitted and analysed throughout the County for 1953 is appended.

SAMPLES AND ACTION TAKEN
WITHIN THE
GODSTONE RURAL DISTRICT.

Articles	Analysed			Adulterated or Irregular		
	Formal	Informal	Total	Formal	Informal	Total
<u>FOOD:</u>						
Milk	95	5	100	8	-	8
Chocolate Roll	2	-	2			
Cinnamon, ground	1	-	1			
Coffee, soluble powder	1	-	1			
Condensed Milk	1	-	1			
Cream, double	1	-	1			
Ginger, ground	1	-	1			
Honey	1	-	1			
Lemon curd	1	-	1			
Marmalade	1	-	1			
Peel, cut	1	-	1			
Sausages	1	-	1			
Soft Drink	1	-	1			
Suet	-	1	1			
Whisky	4	-	4			
<u>DRUGS:</u>						
Chemical food	1	1	2	-	1	1
Totals	113	7	120	8	1	9

Return of Samples analysed during Year 1953.

Articles	Samples			Adulterated or Irregular		
	Formal	Informal	Total	Formal	Informal	Total
<u>FOOD:</u>						
Milk	1,218	76	1,294	58	1	59
Almond essence	1	-	1			
Almonds, ground	2	2	4			
Bacon	-	1	1			
Beer	-	1	1			
Blackcurrant juice	-	1	1			
Butter	-	2	2			
Cakes	-	1	1			
Cheese.	-	2	2			
Cheese spread	-	2	2			
Chocolate Roll	3	-	3	1 [*]	-	1
Christmas pudding	2	-	2			
Cinnamon, ground	1	-	1			
Cochineal	-	1	1			
Cocoa	-	1	1			
Coconut, dessicated	-	1	1			
Coconut, sugared	-	1	1			
Coffee	1	2	3			
Coffee, soluble powder	1	-	1			
Coffee and Chicory essence	1	2	3			
Coffee and Chicory mixture	1	1	2			
Condensed Milk	2	1	3			
Confectionery	15	5	20	2	1	3
Cooking Fat	-	3	3			
Cooking Oil	-	1	1			
Cream	1	1	2			
Cream, double	5	9	14	1	1	2
Cream, sterilised	4	1	5			
Cream, synthetic	2	-	2			
Custard powder	1	-	1			
Dripping	-	2	2			
Fish	-	3	3			
Fish Cakes	-	1	1			
Flour	4	3	7			
Fruit, tinned	9	-	9			
Gelatine	1	-	1	1	-	1
Gin	5	-	5			
Ginger, ground	1	-	1			
Glucose Drink	-	1	1			
Glucose Drink, powder	1	-	1	1	-	1
Grape juice	-	1	1			
Grapefruit juice	1	4	5	1	-	1
Honey	1	3	4			
Horseradish Relish	-	1	1			
Ice-Cream	36	12	48	3	-	3
Ice-Cream powder	1	-	1			
Iced Lollies	1	-	1			
Jam	12	4	16	1	1	2
Jelly	1	4	5			
Lemon Curd	2	1	3			
Lemonade powder	-	1	1			
Carried forward	1,337	159	1,496	69	4	73

* Legal proceedings were instituted and a conviction obtained against a seller of Chocolate Roll deficient in dry fat free cocoa matter.

Articles	Samples			Adulterated or Irregular		
	Formal	Informal	Total	Formal	Informal	Total
Brought forward	1,337	159	1,496	69	4	73
<u>FOOD: (continued)</u>						
Macaroons	1	-	1			
Margarine	-	2	2			
Marmalade	2	-	2			
Marzipan	1	2	3			
Meat	-	2	2			
Meat, tinned	1	5	6			
Meat paste	-	3	3			
Meat pie	-	3	3			
Meat pudding	-	1	1			
Mincemeat	4	1	5			
Oat cakes	1	-	1			
Peanut Butter	2	-	2			
Peel, cut	1	-	1			
Pepper	2	5	7			
Rose Hip syrup	-	1	1			
Sausages	12	5	17			
Sausages, Vienna	1	-	1			
Soft Drinks	6	8	14			
Soup	7	-	7	2		2
Suet	9	2	11	2	1	3
Sugar	-	2	2			
Sultanas	-	1	1			
Tomato Ketchup	-	1	1			
Vinegar	-	3	3			
Whisky	28	-	28			
Wine	1	1	2			
Wine, Ginger	-	1	1			
Wine, Non-alcoholic	1	-	1			
Wine, Peppermint	1	-	1			
Yoghourt	-	3	3			
<u>DRUGS:</u>						
Adrenaline cream	-	1	1			
Aspirin tablets	-	5	5	-	1	1
Buckwheat-dried leaf and flowers	-	1	1			
Chemical food	5	1	6	-	1	1
Cod Liver Oil	-	1	1			
Codeine tablets	-	1	1			
Cough linctus	-	2	2			
Cough syrup	1	2	3	1	2	3
Deodorant tablets	-	1	1			
Eucalyptus Oil	-	1	1			
Friars Balsam	2	-	2			
Halibut Liver Oil Capsules	-	2	2	-	1	1
Liver concentrate tablets	-	1	1			
Lung tonic	-	1	1			
Malt extract with Cod Liver Oil	-	4	4	-	2	2
Malt extract	-	1	1			
Ointment, Insect repellent	-	1	1			
Olive Oil	-	1	1			
Peppermint tablets	2	1	3			
Rheumatic cream	-	1	1			
Travel-sickness tablets	-	1	1			
Vitamin syrup	-	2	2			
Vitamin capsules	-	1	1			
Totals	1,428	244	1,672	74	12	86

SECTION VI

Inspection and Supervision of Food.

(a) MILK SUPPLY.

At the end of 1953, there were 7 dairy premises and 15 milk distributors registered with the Local Authority; of these 8 are registered in other districts and deliver milk supplies to parishes within the Godstone Rural District. These 8 distributors hold Supplementary Licences to sell graded milks.

The Surrey County Council renewed the Licences to pasteurise milk at the two premises within this Local Authority's area, one being at Bletchingley and the other at Outwood.

Milk samples taken during the year and the results obtained are given in Section II of this report. The sampling of raw milk supplies was continued through the year from producers premises for biological examination. Some 138 samples were taken and of these one gave a positive result. The Medical Officer of Health took the necessary action in this case.

(b) FOOD INSPECTION.

During the year quantities of foodstuffs were examined and the following is a list of those which were found to be unfit for human consumption.

Meat	(a) 151 lbs. Beef.
	(b) 241 lbs. Pork.
	(c) 237 lbs. Mutton.
Fish	343 lbs.
Rabbits	24 carcasses.
Tinned goods	(a) 32 lbs. Luncheon meat.
	(b) 41 lbs. Ham.
	(c) 12 lbs. Brisket.
	(d) 1 lb. Stewed steak.
	(e) 6 lbs. Jellied veal.
	(f) 8 lbs. Veal and Ham Roll.
Cheese	19 lbs.
Eggs	24 Danish.
Fruit	55 tins

Vegetables	(a) 1 cwt. Potatoes.
	(b) 1 lb. Peas.
Dry goods	(a) 5 lbs. Porridge Oats.
	(b) 1 tin Mustard.
Milk	1 tin Condensed.

The disposal of condemned foodstuff has always been carefully considered and unless absolute guarantee that the particular material will be used only for animal feeding is forthcoming, steps are always taken to ensure that the foodstuff concerned is rendered unusable.

In regard to meat, if the reason for condemnation is due to disease, destruction is insisted upon unless there are some very exceptional circumstances involved. Where, however, condemnation is due to a condition such as bruising or decomposition, then the meat is rendered unsightly by means of a vegetable dye and is allowed to be used for animal feeding.

The School Canteens are subjected to regular inspection and as a routine measure protective action is also taken to ensure that insect pests are kept under control. The Surrey County Council Education Department have the administration of these Canteens under their control, and they have always been very co-operative in this work.

A very persistent infestation of steam flies or cockroaches was treated at a hospital kitchen. Spraying with insecticide produced little permanent result, and it was not until an emulsion used in the form of paint applied to all surfaces, including work tables, electrically heated food trolleys, etc. was the infestation brought under control. Monthly inspections are carried out to ensure that early notice of any re-infestation is obtained.

ICE-CREAM.

There are registered in the Godstone Rural District 87 premises for the sale of ice-cream. Most of the ice-cream is sold pre-wrapped and supplied by the better known manufacturers. Only one establishment is registered for the manufacture of ice-cream for sale on his own premises.

8 samples of ice-cream were submitted for analysis. Three of these were Grade I and five were placed in Grade II.

SLAUGHTERHOUSES.

11 private slaughterhouses were licensed to the end of the year and one knackers yard was also licensed.

The private slaughterhouses have of course not been used very much. The only slaughtering which takes place is the occasional pig for local pig clubs and private owners. The Government Centralized Slaughtering Scheme is still in operation but there have been rumours that there may be a return to private slaughtering when derationing is possible.

The knackers yard is visited from time to time and the licensed owner is very co-operative and carries out any improvement or alteration which is considered necessary. The amount of slaughtering which takes place at this yard is not nearly so great as a few years ago.

PET SHOPS ACT, 1951.

Three premises are licensed under the provisions of the above Act. In no case was any breach of the conditions laid down observed.

SECTION VII.

THE PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949.

A summary of the year's work of rat and mice destruction is given in Table XII. This summary takes the form of a copy of the Annual Return submitted to the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries (Infestation Control Division).

It will be seen that the volume of work has increased over the previous year. This proves of course that the total elimination of rat and mice populations throughout the country is not practicable, but that the infestations can be kept down to a reasonable level. This must be the constant aim of the rodent control service. Only by continued inspection and treatment of infestations so found will the rat population be kept down to reasonable proportions. The number of major infestations found during the course of a year is almost negligible, whereas in the earlier days of rodent control major infestations were common. This proves that the measures taken have been effective and that provided continual vigilance is maintained, major infestations should become very rare.

It will be noted in the Table mentioned above that there is in addition to the information given previously, a section under Item 2 (c) which includes visits made primarily to premises for other purposes, but where at the same time an observation is also made as to whether or not rat or mice infestation is apparent.

All the Local Authority's sewers were tested during the year and two minor infestations were dealt with. In general the sewage disposal systems were reasonably free of rat infestation.

A heavy infestation by *prodia interpunctella* of currants and sultanas was discovered at a hospital stores. The infestation was reported to the appropriate department of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries who visited the hospital and gave advice as to dealing with the infestation. The fruit was subsequently treated by fumigation under the supervision of the Public Health Department. Following this treatment the greater proportion of the stock was fit for human consumption.

TABLE XII

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949.
REPORT FOR 15 MONTHS ENDED 31ST MARCH, 1954.

NAME OF LOCAL AUTHORITY: GODSTONE R.D.C. (COUNTY) SURREY.

	Type of Property				
	Local Authority	Dwelling Houses	Agricultural	All other (including business premises)	Total
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
I. Total number of properties in Local Authority's District (Notes 1 and 2)	11	8791	483	1011	10,296
II. Number of properties inspected by the Local Authority during the 15 months ended 31st March, 1954 as a result of (a) notification (b) survey under the Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949 (c) otherwise e.g. when visited primarily for some other purpose. (Notes 1, 2 and 3).	(a) 2	253	15	35	305
	(b) 9	22	1	16	48
	(c) 11	809	210	226	1,256
III. Number of properties inspected (See Section II) which were found to be infested by rats (Notes 1, 2 and 3)	Major 2	5	2	3	12
	Minor 9	217	4	43	273
IV. Number of properties inspected (see Section II) which were found to be seriously infested by mice (Notes 1, 2 and 3)	Nil	43	Nil	15	58
V. Number of infested properties (see Sections III and IV) treated by the Local Authority (Notes 1, 2 and 3)	11	265	6	61	343
VI. Number of notices served under Section 4:	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
(1) Treatment	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
(2) Structural Works (i.e. Proofing)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
VII. Number of cases in which default action was taken by the Local Authority following the issue of a notice under Section 4.	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
VIII. Legal Proceedings	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
IX. Number of "block" control schemes carried out	7 (involving 31 houses)				

NOTES

- Note 1 With the exception of agricultural properties, a property means one which is entered separately in the Valuation Roll for the area.
- Note 2 (a) Council houses should be entered in Column (2)
 (b) Premises used by the Local Authority for the purposes of trade should be entered in Column (4)
 (c) Sewers should not be included.
 (d) Combined dwelling and business premises, where occupied by the same person, should be regarded as business premises and should be entered in Column (4). Where the dwelling and business parts of the premises are in separate occupation, separate entries should be made in Columns (2) and (4).
- Note 3 For the purpose of completing Sections II, III, IV and V, each property should be entered once only in respect of inspections, infestations or treatments.

